January 2000

IDAHO WATER RENTAL PILOT PROJECT PROBABILITY/COORDINATION STUDY RESIDENT FISH AND WILDLIFE IMPACTS

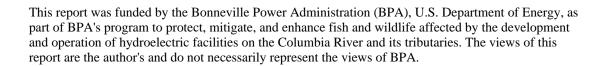
PHASE III

Annual Report



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IDAHO WATER RENTAL PILOT PROJECT PROBABILITY/COORDINATION STUDY RESIDENT FISH AND WILDLIFE IMPACTS PHASE III

ANNUAL REPORT

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January 2000

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | | Page |
|-------|--|------|
| Exec | cutive Summary | . 1 |
| Intro | duction | . 2 |
| Study | y Area | . 3 |
| _ | ods | |
| Н | [abitat | . 3 |
| Fl | low Comparisons | . 6 |
| | lts and Discussion | |
|] | Flow Augmentation Releases | . 6 |
| | Snake River | . 6 |
| | Payette River | . 6 |
| | Boise River | . 7 |
|] | Habitat | . 7 |
| | Snake River | . 7 |
| | Deadwood River | . 9 |
| | Summary | |
|] | Flow Comparisons | |
| | Snake River | |
| | Payette River | .10 |
| | Boise River | |
| Conc | clusions and Recommendations | |
|] | Habitat | .12 |
|] | Flow Comparisons | .13 |
| | ature Cited | |
| | | |
| | LIST OF TABLES | |
| Tabl | l e | Page |
| 1. | Stored water provided for salmon flow augmentation from Bureau of | |
| | Reclamation reservoirs in acre-feet, 1998 | .18 |
| 2. | Timing of the 1998 flow augmentation releases from the upper Snake Basin | .19 |
| 3. | Water provided for flow augmentation from the Snake River Basin upstream of Hells Canyon Dam, 1987-1998. Values are in acre-feet | .20 |

| Table | | Page |
|-------|---|-------|
| 4. | Changes in white sturgeon habitat in the Snake River from C.J. Strike Dam to Swan Falls Reservoir resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1998. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; Incub. = incubation; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month. | |
| 5. | Changes in white sturgeon habitat in the Snake River from Swan Falls Dam to Walte Ferry resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1998. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; Incub. = incubation; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month. | |
| 6. | Changes in white sturgeon habitat in the Snake River from Walters Ferry to the Boise River resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1998. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; Incub. = incubation; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month | 23 |
| 7. | Changes in white sturgeon habitat in the Snake River from the Boise River to the Payette River resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1998. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; Incub. = incubation; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month | 24 |
| 8. | Changes in white sturgeon habitat in the Snake River from the Payette River to Brownlee Reservoir resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the sur of 1998. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; Incub. = incubation; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month | |
| 9. | Changes in rainbow trout habitat in the Snake River from C.J. Strike Dam to Swan Falls Reservoir resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1998. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; Incub. = incubation; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month | |
| 10. | Changes in rainbow trout habitat in the Snake River from Swan Falls Dam to Walters Ferry resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1998. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; Incub. = incubation; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month | |
| 11. | Changes in rainbow trout habitat in the Snake River from Walters Ferry to the Boise | River |

resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1998. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; Incub. = incubation; N/A = not applicable, life

| Table | 1 | Page |
|-------|---|------|
| 12. | Changes in rainbow trout habitat in the Snake River from the Boise River to the Payette River resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1998. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; Incub. = incubation; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month | 29 |
| 13. | Changes in rainbow trout habitat in the Snake River from the Payette River to Brownlee Reservoir resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1998. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; Incub. = incubation; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month | 30 |
| 14. | White sturgeon and rainbow trout life stages and time of occurrence in the Snake River (from Anglin et al. 1992). Incub. = incubation; Juv. = juvenile | 31 |
| 15. | Changes in bull trout habitat in the Deadwood River from Deadwood Dam to the mouth resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1994. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month | 32 |
| 16. | Changes in rainbow trout habitat in the Deadwood River from Deadwood Dam to the mouth resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1994. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; N/A = not applicable, life stage not preduring that month. | |
| 17. | Changes in bull trout habitat in the Deadwood River from Deadwood Dam to the mouth resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1996. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month | 33 |
| 18. | Changes in rainbow trout habitat in the Deadwood River from Deadwood Dam to the mouth resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1996. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month | 33 |
| 19. | Changes in bull trout habitat in the Deadwood River from Deadwood Dam to the mouth resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1997. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month | 34 |

| Table | | Page |
|--------|---|------|
| 20. | Changes in rainbow trout habitat in the Deadwood River from Deadwood Dam to the mouth resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1997. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month | 34 |
| 21. | Changes in bull trout habitat in the Deadwood River from Deadwood Dam to the mouth resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1998. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month | 35 |
| 22. | Changes in rainbow trout habitat in the Deadwood River from Deadwood Dam to the mouth resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1998. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month | 35 |
| 23. | Integrated (target) fish flows and recommended minimum stream flow by month for average, wet, and dry years, and actual flows recorded at the Murphy Gage on the Snake River downstream of Swan Falls Dam during the flow augmentation periods in 1994 - 1998. Data is from Anglin et al.(1992). Flows are in cubic feet per second | |
| 24. | Flow summary for years 1994 - 1998 showing the salmon flow augmentation release dates, total mean monthly flows, flow augmentation component of total flow, minimum flow recommendations, frequency that flows met or exceeded minimums, and recommended release time | |
| | LIST OF FIGURES | |
| Figure | | Page |
| 1. | Idaho Water Rental Pilot Project study area | 17 |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Phase III began in 1995 with the overall goal of quantifying changes in resident fish habitat in the Snake River Basin upstream of Brownlee Reservoir resulting from the release of salmon flow augmentation water. Existing data, in the form of weighted usable area versus flow relationships, were used to estimate habitat changes for white sturgeon (*Acipenser transmontanus*) and rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) in the Snake River between C.J. Strike Dam and Brownlee Reservoir in 1998. Existing data was also used to estimate habitat changes for rainbow trout and bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) in the Deadwood River between Deadwood Dam and the mouth from 1994 to 1998.

The increased flows resulted in an increase in the quantity of useable habitat for adult and juvenile white sturgeon and adult rainbow trout and decreases in the quantity of rainbow trout fry and juvenile habitat in the Snake River. Flows in the Snake River have rarely met mean monthly flow recommendations for the past five years despite the addition of the flow augmentation releases. It is unlikely that the flow augmentation releases have had any significant long-term benefit for sturgeon and rainbow trout in the Snake River.

Flow augmentation in the Deadwood River has resulted in the decrease in the quantity of useable habitat for bull trout and rainbow trout the majority of the time. Adult bull trout weighted useable area decreased in five of the eight months of flow augmentation since 1994. It decreased for adult rainbow trout in seven out of eight months, and decreased all eight months for juvenile bull trout, and for rainbow trout juveniles and fry.

Flow augmentation releases from the Boise and Payette rivers have in some years helped to meet or exceed minimum flow recommendations in these tributaries. In some cases the minimum flows would not have been reached without the flow augmentation releases. The timing of some of the releases need to be adjusted in order to permanently increase the quantity of useable resident fish habitat in the upper Snake River Basin.

INTRODUCTION

The use of stored Snake River water to aid anadromous fish migration in the Snake River downstream of Lewiston, Idaho, and in the Columbia River began in 1982 with the adoption of the first Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Program (Program) by the Northwest Power Planning Council (NPPC). The Program called for a total of 1.19 million acre-feet (af) of water from the Snake River Basin to be delivered to Lower Granite Dam between April 15 and June 15 each year to aid spring outmigrating anadromous fish (NPPC 1982). This was called the water budget. This water would come primarily from Dworshak and Brownlee reservoirs.

The water budget evolved and became more specific in the NPPC's Strategy for Salmon (NPPC 1992). It called for a total of 427,000 af of water to come from the Snake River upstream of Brownlee Reservoir, up to 900,000 af from Dworshak Reservoir to aid spring migrants, and up to 200,000 af from Dworshak Reservoir to aid fall migrants. With the listing of Snake River salmon stocks on the endangered species list, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in its Biological Opinion (NMFS 1995) on endangered Snake River salmon, replaced the water budget with flow targets for the Snake and Columbia rivers while maintaining the requirement to use at least 427,000 af of upper Snake River Basin water for flow augmentation. In 1996, the Idaho Legislature approved the use of 427,000 af on an experimental basis through the year 1999.

The Idaho Water Rental Pilot Project began in 1991 as part of the 1990 Non-Treaty Storage Fish and Wildlife Agreement (NTSFWA) between Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority (CBFWA). This agreement resulted from concerns over potential impacts to fish and wildlife resulting from the Non-Treaty Storage Agreements (NTSA) signed between BPA and the mid-Columbia utilities, and between BPA and British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority. The NTSFWA contained several provisions designed to ensure the NTSA did not adversely impact fish and wildlife. One of the provisions called for identifying conditions needed for resident fish and wildlife and to protect those needs.

The Idaho Water Rental Pilot Project was designed to "identify resident fish and wildlife issues, concerns, and resources in the Snake River system, estimate impacts, and provide management recommendations to protect and enhance those resources" as impacted by the release of water in the upper Snake River Basin (upstream of Brownlee Reservoir) for enhancing juvenile salmon outmigration (Riggin and Hansen 1992). After the initial three years of the project, it was integrated into the NPPC's Fish and Wildlife Program. The project was divided into these three phases:

- 1. Phase I focused on summarizing and identifying existing resident fish and wildlife resources, issues, and concerns as well as making flow recommendations (Riggin and Hansen 1992).
- 2. Phase II focused on conducting an Instream Flow Incremental Methodology (IFIM) study on the Snake River upstream of American Falls Dam and summarizing Snake River Basin water issues and flow augmentation releases since the completion of Phase I (Stovall 1994).
- 3. Phase III is focusing on quantifying changes in resident fish habitat in the upper Snake River resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases and has these specific objectives:
 - a. Determine impacts to resident fish habitat (in weighted usable area (WUA)) in the upper Snake River Basin, for selected native fish species, resulting

from salmon flow augmentation releases and make recommendations that would increase the useable habitat for native fish.

- b. Work with the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) to develop a model that estimates changes in fish habitat (WUA) in the upper Snake River resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases.
- c. Coordinate with state, federal, and tribal agencies to ensure that duplication of effort does not occur in efforts to explore water management opportunities in the upper Snake River Basin for salmon flow augmentation.

STUDY AREA

The study area encompasses the Snake River upstream of Brownlee Reservoir to the Idaho border, the Henrys Fork, Boise River, and Payette River drainages. The flow augmentation water was physically moved from these BOR facilities within the study area in 1998 (and every year since 1994): American Falls, Lucky Peak, Cascade, and Deadwood reservoirs (Figure 1).

METHODS

The analysis can be divided into two sections. The first quantifies changes in fish habitat resulting from the flow augmentation releases. The second is a qualitative comparison of flows to minimum flow recommendations found in the literature.

Habitat

The same methods were used to estimate changes in fish habitat in the Snake River between C.J. Strike Dam and Brownlee Reservoir as was done previously (Leitzinger 1996, 1997, 1998). Data from the Swan Falls Instream Flow Study (SFIFS) (Anglin et al. 1992) was used to estimate changes in white sturgeon and rainbow trout habitat (weighted usable area) resulting from the release of salmon flow augmentation water from the Snake River Basin upstream of Brownlee Reservoir. The SFIFS divided the Snake River from C.J. Strike Dam to Brownlee Reservoir into five study reaches:

- 1. From C.J. Strike Dam downstream to Swan Falls Reservoir;
- 2. Swan Falls Dam downstream to Walters Ferry;
- 3. Walters Ferry downstream to the mouth of the Boise River;
- 4. The Boise River mouth downstream to the mouth of the Payette River; and
- 5. The Payette River mouth downstream to Brownlee Reservoir.

The SFIFS developed habitat versus flow relationships for six species in each study reach: white sturgeon, rainbow trout, mountain whitefish (*Prosopium williamsoni*), smallmouth bass (*Micropterus dolomieui*), flathead catfish (*Pylodictis olivaris*), and channel catfish (*Ictalurus punctatus*). The analysis used in this report covered the same five study reaches. White sturgeon and rainbow trout were used in this analysis because they are the primary native game species left in that reach of the basin. Total WUA was expressed in millions of square feet in each reach.

This past year, the BOR and the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) have been able to estimate the Deadwood Reservoir flow augmentation component separately from the Cascade Reservoir release. They estimated the timing (start and end dates), and the daily flow (in cfs) for each year since 1994. They will continue to track the Cascade and Deadwood releases separately so a more thorough evaluation can occur. This has allowed the use of U. S. Forest Service instream flow data on the Deadwood River to estimate the changes in bull trout and rainbow trout habitat resulting from flow augmentation. The Deadwood River data is expressed as WUA in square feet per thousand linear feet of stream.

An Excel spreadsheet was developed that calculates the change in WUA expressed in millions of square feet in each reach for the same age classes of sturgeon and rainbow trout used in the SFIFS. The sturgeon life stages were: adult, larvae, spawning, and incubation. The age classes for rainbow trout were adult, juvenile, spawning, and fry. The spreadsheet took United States Geological Survey (USGS) daily stream gage data and subtracted the flow augmentation releases from IDWR. The resulting values represented what the flow in the river would have been without the flow augmentation releases. The stream gage data represents the flow in the river with the flow augmentation water. Then using the SFIFS data, WUA was calculated for each flow. These values were subtracted to get the change in WUA resulting from the flow augmentation releases. The SFIFS habitat versus flow curves were developed using flows from 5,000 to 17,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) in 1,000 cfs increments (5,000, 6,000, 7,000, etc.). Actual flows were somewhere between these points, so WUA for the actual flows were estimated by linear interpolation between the two closest increments. If the actual flow was 6,500 cfs, the WUA was calculated to be halfway between the WUA at 6,000 and 7,000 cfs. If the actual flow was 8,900 cfs, the WUA was estimated to be 90% of the difference between the WUA at 8,000 and 9,000 cfs. This analysis was done for the 1994-1998 flow augmentation releases by month at the Murphy gage on the Snake River. The SFIFS flow recommendations were for flows past this gage. Habitat changes were summarized for each month the flow augmentation water was released.

The same spreadsheet was used for the Deadwood River data. The spreadsheet was modified slightly so the results were consistent with the U. S. Forest Service data (habitat expressed as weighted useable area in square feet per thousand linear feet of stream).

Data tracking the movement of the flow augmentation water from the upper Snake River Basin were collected and summarized from the BOR and IDWR. IDWR collects detailed information on the water including days, volumes, flow rates, etc., but it is only monitored at three locations in the upper Snake River Basin. These locations are Milner Dam on the main Snake River, Letha Bridge on the lower Payette River, and the Middleton Gage on the lower Boise River. The BOR data, on the other hand, give the total volumes released from each reservoir but do not give when it was released or the resulting flows.

The data from IDWR give the dates the flow augmentation water passes the three control points and the dates the water reaches Brownlee Reservoir. From this it was possible to determine the number of days it took the water to travel from the control points to Brownlee Reservoir. It was assumed that the water traveled an equal distance each day in order to estimate when the water reached each of the five study reaches between C.J. Strike Dam and Brownlee Reservoir. Approximate water travel times for the Boise and Payette rivers were obtained from BOR and IDWR personnel. It was then possible to determine when the flow augmentation water was released from the dams, when it passed the control points and when it reached the Snake River.

The major problem with tracking the flow augmentation water has been the difference between the accounting of the water and the actual physical movement of water through the system. On paper, the data

from the BOR and IDWR show the water is being moved out of various reservoirs at various times of the year. However, after 1994, the water has been physically moved only out of American Falls Reservoir in the upper Snake River Basin, Lucky Peak Reservoir in the Boise River Basin, and Cascade and Deadwood reservoirs in the Payette River Basin (R. Larson and R. Rigby BOR personal communication) while other reservoir storage accounts are charged with the flow augmentation releases. For example, individuals that own storage rights in any of the reservoirs upstream of Milner Dam (water district 01) may put some of their stored water into the district's rental pool. If the BOR purchases water from the rental pool, it will physically be moved out of American Falls Reservoir even though the storage right may have been from another reservoir. The accounting of the water will be charged to the reservoirs where the storage right exists. Also, small amounts of flow augmentation water have been charged to uncontracted space in other storage reservoirs even though the water was not moved from these. The storage reservoirs within a water district are operated as a single system, not independent reservoirs. They are operated in a way that tries to maximize the operational flexibility of the system. To do this, the reservoirs are prioritized as to which get drawn down first and which maintain as much water as possible for as long as possible. Generally, the BOR strives to keep water as high in the system as possible. In order to maintain flexibility, it is quite common for storage space to be transferred among reservoirs within a basin. So, it is possible to have Anderson Ranch Reservoir storage space in Lucky Peak Reservoir and vice versa.

The main concern BOR and IDWR have is meeting the total water demand at the control points (i.e. Milner Dam on the Snake, Letha gage on the Payette, and the Middleton gage on the Boise River). If conditions are such that American Falls Reservoir will refill without having to physically move water from higher in the system, then it will not be moved. American Falls Reservoir usually refills even in low water years due to the large inflow of springs in the area. The only time the water will be physically moved from a reservoir other than American Falls Reservoir in the upper Snake River Basin is during a low water year when there is not enough water available in American Falls Reservoir to meet irrigation and other demands (R. Larson BOR personal communication). This occurred only during the 1994 flow augmentation period. The same holds true for the Boise system. If natural flows are sufficient to refill the Lucky Peak Reservoir storage space used for flow augmentation, then storage in Anderson Ranch Reservoir will not be physically moved out of the reservoir.

The Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG), in cooperation with the IDWR and BOR conducted minimum flow studies on much of the Snake River in the 1970s and 1980s using the wetted perimeter method (White and Cochnauer 1975; Cochnauer 1976, 1977; Cochnauer and Buettner 1978; Cochnauer and Hoyt 1979; Horton and Cochnauer 1980; Cochnauer and Mabbott 1981). These data were not used because the wetted perimeter method is a standard setting method used to define minimum flows. It is based on the assumption that if minimum flows over narrow riffles are adequate for food production, passage, and spawning, then all other habitats will be adequately protected (Stalnaker et al. 1994). The wetted perimeter is an indirect measure of habitat and thus could not be used to quantify habitat changes resulting from increased flow.

Flow Comparisons

Flows in the Boise River, Payette River, and Snake River were compared with and without the flow augmentation water to flow recommendations from the literature to see if flows were being met and if the augmentation water helped achieve those flows.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Flow Augmentation Releases

Flow augmentation releases for 1998 are summarized in Tables 1 - 3. The release of approximately 427,000 af from the Snake River Basin upstream of Brownlee Reservoir for salmon flow augmentation has occurred since 1993. Releases were similar to years 1995 – 1997 with respect to the volume, duration, timing, rate of release, and reservoirs used. The total volume released from the Payette Basin was 145,043 af, the Boise Basin release was 40,932 af, and the upper Snake Basin release was 223,222 af. Also, 17,847 af came from natural flow rights in the Malheur River Basin and mainstem Snake River in Oregon.

Snake River

The Snake River releases usually pass Milner Dam during the first week of July and end in mid September. The water takes approximately six days to reach Brownlee Reservoir. The flow augmentation adds approximately 1,500 cfs to the river. Total mean monthly flows at the Murphy gage (downstream of Swan Falls Dam) during the flow augmentation period usually have ranged from about 6,200 cfs to 9,000 cfs. Only in August 1997 (10,480 cfs) and September 1997 (14,809 cfs) were mean monthly flows outside this range.

The flow augmentation release is split at Milner Dam. Only 200 cfs is released at the dam and remains in the river channel. Two hundred cubic feet per second is the capacity of the Idaho Power Company (IPC) turbine at the dam. The remaining 1,300 cfs is diverted down an irrigation ditch for just over a mile to be run through another IPC turbine to generate hydroelectric power prior to returning to the river.

Payette River

The 1998 Payette release was split 58/42% between summer and winter releases. This was done in an attempt to balance the fish and water quality needs in Cascade Reservoir and those in the river downstream. Cascade Reservoir and the lower Payette River downstream of Black Canyon Dam have been designated water quality limited during the summer by the Environmental Protection Agency. Therefore, the water managers try to keep as much water in Cascade Reservoir during the summer to minimize the chance of exceeding water quality standards. This is done by releasing the Deadwood Reservoir component in the summer along with a portion of the Cascade Reservoir component. This allows a portion of the Cascade Reservoir component to be kept in the reservoir and released during the nonirrigation season. These summer flows are also thought to improve the lower Payette River water quality by helping to flush sediments and keep water temperatures lower. The remaining portion of the total Payette contribution (usually 30 – 50%) is then released from Cascade Reservoir during the nonirrigation season. The nonirrigation season has been identified as a critical period for salmonids in the Payette River system. It is thought to be the time when additional flows would benefit the fishery the most (Riggin and Hansen 1992). Another critical factor in the success of this scenario has been an agreement with IPC whereby IPC releases an additional volume of water during the summer from Brownlee Reservoir. This volume of water is equivalent to the volume of water to be released during the nonirrigation season from Cascade Reservoir. IPC pre-releases this water and then gets paid back with an equal volume during the nonirrigation season.

The typical summer flow augmentation release out of Deadwood Reservoir is approximately 150 cfs during

July, then dropping to 100 cfs during August. Total flow near the mouth of the Deadwood River, including the flow augmentation component, averages approximately 675 cfs in July and 750 cfs in August. The Cascade Reservoir flow augmentation release averages about 800 cfs in July, dropping to 500 cfs in August. Total flow from Cascade Reservoir for July and August, including the flow augmentation component, stays fairly constant at approximately 1,500 cfs.

Winter flow augmentation releases all come out of Cascade Reservoir. These flows have been released primarily in December and January, and have averaged approximately 1,300 cfs. Total releases from the reservoir, including the flow augmentation component, during the winter flow augmentation period have averaged approximately 1,860 cfs.

Boise River

The Boise River releases have been during the summer. Typically the release begins in early July and ends in late August. The flow augmentation adds approximately 400 cfs to the existing flow. Summer flow (with flow augmentation) through the City of Boise approaches 1,500 cfs depending on irrigation demand and water supply.

Habitat

Snake River

Tables 4-13 summarize the changes in fish habitat for white sturgeon and rainbow trout in the five study reaches in the Snake River from C.J. Strike Dam to Brownlee Reservoir for 1998. Anglin et al. (1992) summarized the spawning, incubation, larval, and adult/juvenile time periods for each species in each of the five sections. Those for white sturgeon and rainbow trout are listed in Table 14. Habitat changes were estimated only for adult and juvenile white sturgeon and adult, juvenile, and fry rainbow trout. These were the only life stages present during the flow augmentation releases.

In all cases, the increased flows resulted in increased habitat (in terms of square feet gained) for adult and juvenile white sturgeon (Tables 4-8). The increases in adult/juvenile white sturgeon habitat ranged from a low of 180,000 sf (4.00%) in the reach from the Payette River mouth to Brownlee Reservoir during September to 4,490,000 sf (16.25%) in the reach from the Boise River mouth to Payette River mouth during July.

Although 1998 was another wet year, the flows were not as high as in 1997. However, flows were very similar to 1995 and 1996 (Table 24). The release strategies were also similar. Because of this, habitat changes were similar to 1995 and 1996.

Lepla and Chandler (1995) identified sturgeon in the middle Snake River as habitat generalists, using a wide variety of habitats. This is true for adults and juveniles. But, sturgeon have very specific requirements for spawning and early life history development. For example, water temperatures should be 13 - 16°C for spawning and 14 - 16°C for egg and larval development. Temperatures of 20°C and greater are lethal to developing eggs and larvae.

Physical habitat variables used in IFIM studies (depth, velocity, and substrate) accounted for only 28% of the variability in sturgeon location. Lepla and Chandler (1995) suggested other factors such as prey abundance and availability may be more important than physical habitat in determining the distribution of white sturgeon in the middle Snake River. This concurs with other work in the Columbia River (Parsley

and Beckman 1992). So, increases in sturgeon habitat may not result in any benefit to the sturgeon population especially if the changes are short term and do not benefit a critical or limited life stage (i.e. spawning and larvae) or a limiting time period.

The spring sturgeon spawning and larval development period has been identified as a critical time period for sturgeon (D. Parrish, IDFG personal communication) in the reach from upper Salmon Falls Dam to C.J. Strike Reservoir. Often, there are insufficient flows and water temperatures are too warm for successful sturgeon spawning and larval development. But, summer flows have also been identified as a critical period for sturgeon in the stretch of the river from C.J. Strike Dam to Brownlee Reservoir. Flows in this stretch of the river during the summer are often almost stagnant and suffer from extreme nutrient loading (S. Grunder IDFG personal communication). This results in very low dissolved oxygen levels and even fish kills.

Riggin and Hansen (1992) recommended releasing the flow augmentation water from July 1 to September 30 to benefit water quality in this reach of the Snake River. But, water quality benefits are thought to be minimal at best due to this release strategy because the flow augmentation water is warm water released from American Falls Reservoir and is split at Milner Dam (D. Parrish, IDFG personal communication). At present only 200 cfs flows in the river channel and the remaining (approximately 1,300 cfs) water is diverted though an irrigation canal for a little over a mile so it can run through a turbine before it is returned to the river. Thus, the water is subject to increased warming and nutrient loading compared to keeping all the water in the river channel.

An alternative might be to release the water in the spring (April through June) for sturgeon spawning and larval development in dry years and release it starting in June in normal and wet years to protect larval sturgeon and for improved water quality. The spring releases would also aid spring migrating juvenile anadromous fish below Hells Canyon Dam during low water years when they need it the most. Releasing the water in the spring has been shown to increase sturgeon spawning and larval habitat (Leitzinger 1996).

Interpretation of the rainbow trout results is not as straight forward as the sturgeon. The results are summarized in Tables 9-13. Habitat increased for adult rainbow trout in all sections except for the reach from the Boise River mouth to Payette River mouth in early July and September, and in the reach from the Payette River mouth to Brownlee Reservoir in early July. The recorded flows in the reach from the Payette River to Brownlee Reservoir in early July were higher than the range of flows in the SFIFS. Therefore, no estimate of available habitat could be made. The increases in habitat ranged from 70,000 sf (0.05%) in the reach from the Payette River mouth to Brownlee Reservoir during September to 25,450,000 sf (12.61%) in the reach from Walters Ferry to the Boise River mouth during July. The decreases ranged from 1,990,000 sf (1.53%) in the reach from Payette River mouth to Brownlee Reservoir during July to 5,280,000 sf (2.27%) in the reach from the Boise River mouth to Payette River mouth during September.

In all but one case, the flow augmentation releases result in the loss of juvenile and fry rainbow trout habitat. Juvenile habitat losses ranged from 20,000 sf (0.31%) in the reach from Swan Falls Dam to Walters Ferry during August to 14,470,000 sf (23.08%) in the reach from the Payette River mouth to Brownlee Reservoir during July. Fry habitat losses ranged from 360,000 sf (4.86%) in the C.J. Strike Dam to Swan Falls Reservoir reach during August to 14,060,000 sf (29.02%) in the reach from Walters Ferry to the Boise River mouth during August. The lone increase was for juvenile rainbow trout habitat in the reach from the Payette River mouth to Brownlee Reservoir. The increase was small, 60,000 sf (0.94%).

These declines in available habitat for rainbow trout fry and juveniles are not significant for two reasons.

First, it is very unlikely that rainbow trout fry and juveniles used the mainstem Snake River extensively. As with most large rivers, the native rainbows probably had a fluvial life history, meaning the majority of spawning and early rearing occurred in the tributaries, while the adults and larger juveniles reared in the mainstem Snake River. Unfortunately, there is very little documented life history information on native rainbow trout in this reach of the Snake River. The only evidence found came from Irving and Cuplin (1956). They sampled this reach of the Snake River in 1953 and 1954 and the smallest wild rainbow trout caught were eight inches long.

Second, it is extremely difficult to sample large rivers for juvenile and fry life stages, especially at high flow. Because of this, the suitability index (SI) curves used for rainbow trout were not site specific. They were taken from the literature (Raleigh et al. 1984). These curves were developed on small, clear trout streams in Colorado. This calls into question the appropriateness of using these SI curves. Because they were developed for small streams, the preference or use of the habitat (as expressed by depth, velocity, cover, and temperature) will undoubtedly be narrow, especially when compared to the broader range of habitat that would be expected in a larger river. These fish may use a greater range of habitat in a larger river simply because it is available. Thus, using SI curves developed for small streams may result in an artificially reduced or restricted estimate of available habitat when applied to large rivers.

Deadwood River

Tables 15 – 22 summarizes the changes in the quantity of useable habitat for bull trout and rainbow trout in the Deadwood River from Deadwood Dam downstream to the mouth resulting from the flow augmentation releases since 1994. The Deadwood releases have been made during the summer months only. In all months there was a decrease in the quantity of useable juvenile bull trout habitat. The decreases ranged from 222 ft² per 1,000 ft of stream (0.73%) in August 1994 to 1,189 ft² per 1,000 ft of stream (3.76%) in August 1997. The quantity of useable adult bull trout habitat decreased every August but increased three out of four years in July. These decreases ranged from 89 ft² per 1,000 ft of stream (0.31%) in August 1994 to 1,182 ft² per 1,000 ft of stream (3.94%) during August 1997. While the increases ranged from 355 ft² per 1,000 ft of stream (1.23%) in July 1998 to 2,301 ft² per 1,000 ft of stream (8.46%) in July 1997. If base flows are less than approximately 500 cfs, then the typical flow augmentation release (roughly 150 cfs) results in an increase in the quantity of useable adult bull trout habitat. Base flows greater than roughly 560 cfs result in a decrease in the quantity of useable adult bull trout habitat.

The flow augmentation releases from Deadwood Dam also resulted in a decrease in the quantity of useable habitat for rainbow trout adults, juveniles, and fry in all years and all months except during July 1997. In that month, adult rainbow trout useable habitat increased by 2,277 ft² (4.02%) per 1,000 feet of stream. Decreases ranged from 332 ft² per 1,000 ft of stream (1.03%) in August 1994 to 7,463 ft² per 1,000 ft of stream (18.90%) in July 1997.

This indicates that flow augmentation from Deadwood Reservoir released during the summer does very little to benefit bull trout and rainbow trout habitat. It actually results in a decrease in available habitat for most life stages. Summer does not appear to be the best time to release the Deadwood Reservoir flow augmentation component if benefiting resident fish habitat is a priority. Riggin and Hansen (1992) identified nonirrigation season flows (October – March) as a critical factor for salmonids in the Deadwood River and recommended the flow augmentation releases be made during those months.

Summary

This analysis also raises several questions. Does a short-term (two to five month) increase in flows provide any long-term benefits to resident fish habitat and thus resident fish? When are the flow (or habitat) bottlenecks for sturgeon, bull trout, and rainbow trout (or other resident fish species) in this portion of the basin? If they are not during the summer, then does this water have any long-term benefit to resident fish? If there is a summer flow bottleneck, and if flow is reduced to base flow after the augmentation period, are the benefits then lost because the flow bottleneck has just been delayed to later in the year? These questions are beyond the scope of this project but need to be addressed if this water is to benefit resident fish.

Flow Comparisons

Snake River

The mean monthly flow recommendations in the SFIFS (Anglin et al. 1992) and the actual mean monthly flows at the Murphy Gage on the Snake River (downstream of Swan Falls Dam) are summarized in Table 23. Table 24 also compares the actual flows to the SFIFS recommendations at the Murphy Gage. The actual mean monthly flows from 1994 through 1998 during the flow augmentation period did not meet the integrated fish flow recommendations (the target flow as defined in the SFIFS) 17 out of the 18 months of flow augmentation. The 1998 release as measured at the Murphy Gage, did not meet the integrated fish flow recommendations for July, August, or September on a mean monthly basis. In fact, the SFIFS flow recommendations were not met at all on a daily basis during the 1998 flow augmentation period (zero out of 73 days). Since 1994, the flow recommendations have been met only 28 out of a total of 434 days of flow augmentation (6%).

Although the additional flow provided by flow augmentation provides benefits to resident fish habitat (primarily adult and juvenile sturgeon and adult rainbow trout), it is not enough to avoid further degradation of sturgeon and rainbow trout habitat. Anglin et al. (1992) defined their flow recommendations as flows that would prevent "further degradation of resident fish habitat". These enhanced flows in the Snake River (with the salmon flow augmentation water) would only slow down the rate of decline of the fish habitat and thus ultimately the fish populations because the enhanced flows did not meet the SFIFS recommendations.

Payette River

The summer releases in the Payette River drainage (1994, 1996, 1997, 1998) met the mean monthly minimum flow recommendations only 50% of the time (four out of eight months) in the Lower Payette River at the Letha gage. Minimum flows would not have been met at all if the flow augmentation water was not released.

Minimum flow recommendations were met 75% of the time (six of eight months) at the Cascade gage during the summer with the flow augmentation releases. These minimums would not have been met without the flow augmentation releases.

The winter releases in the Payette River drainage all came out of Cascade Reservoir. Mean monthly minimum flows were met both months during the winter of 1995/96 below Cascade Reservoir and at the Letha gage. However, the flow recommendations would not have been met below Cascade without the flow augmentation releases. They would have been met at the Letha Gage without the additional water. Mean monthly flows below Cascade Reservoir and at Letha during the winter of 1996/97 met minimums all the time. But, these flows would have been met even without the flow augmentation releases due to

unusually high water during that time period. The 1997/98 winter releases met the minimums at both gages. These minimums would not have been met without the flow augmentation water.

Flows in the Deadwood River exceeded minimum flow recommendations all the time on a mean monthly basis. The flows were met or exceeded 195 days out of the 198 days of flow augmentation from 1994 – 1998. The mean monthly minimum flows would have been met even without the flow augmentation releases. This is further indication that summer flow augmentation in the Deadwood River does little to benefit or increase the quantity of resident fish habitat.

Boise River

The Boise River from Lucky Peak Dam downstream through the city of Boise to the Star Bridge is characterized as a cold water salmonid fishery. Summer flows are not limiting the fish populations in this reach because irrigation demand provides higher than historic summer flows. Flows in this reach approach 1,500 cfs during the summer flow augmentation period. That is about six times greater than the 240 cfs minimum recommendation listed in table 24. Flow augmentation probably does little, if anything, to benefit resident fish or fish habitat in this reach.

The Boise River from the Star Bridge to the mouth is comprised primarily of agricultural return flow, has low summer flows, high summer water temperatures, high sediment and nutrient levels, and is comprised primarily of warm water fishes. The Middleton gage (the control point where the augmentation is measured) is located downstream of the Star Bridge. The biological needs of the fish are not well documented in this reach. There is no IFIM or other habitat data available and very limited biological data. It is assumed that increased flows in the summer will provide some benefit to the fishery. Flows in this reach, including the augmentation water have ranged from approximately 480 to 860 cfs (measured at the Middleton gage).

Previous IFIM studies in the Boise River downstream of Lucky Peak Dam (Pruitt and Nadeau 1978, Horton and Cochnauer 1980) have defined the study area as including all or most of the river downstream of Lucky Peak Dam. But, all of the data was collected in the upstream reach from Lucky Peak Dam to Star Bridge. It is unlikely that the flow recommendations developed in the upper section of this reach (upstream of Star Bridge) would be applicable to the lower section due to the major change in the character of the river. The flow recommendations ranged from 150 – 400 cfs during the flow augmentation period depending on the IFIM method and fish species investigated.

The 240 cfs flow recommendation is used in this report (Table 24) because it was the minimum flow requested by IDFG to the Idaho Water Resource Board and is within the range of recommended flows from the studies listed above. However, it is considered too low for the maintenance of aquatic resources, especially during the nonirrigation season. It was based on limited biological data and the professional judgement of the regional fisheries manager in 1975. There was no available IFIM data at the time. It serves to illustrate that the flow augmentation water was still needed to achieve this low flow 30% of the time in the reach from Star bridge to the mouth even though these years were average or above average water years.

The enhanced flows (i.e. with the salmon flow augmentation water) in the Boise River met or exceeded the minimum flow recommendation all the time on a mean monthly basis. The recommended monthly flows would have been met only 70% of the time without the flow augmentation water (seven of the ten months over the last five years). It needs to be pointed out that this water is released during the summer when flows are not limiting. It also needs to be pointed out that these are minimum flows, not preferred or ideal

flows. Traditionally, minimum flows have been considered short- term, essential flows that prevent collapse of the fishery. Unfortunately, they have become targets to reach some of the time, and not flows to drop to only in emergencies.

The nonirrigation season (roughly from mid-October to mid-April) has been identified as the period when additional water would most benefit the salmonid fishery in the Boise River downstream of Lucky Peak Dam (Riggin and Hansen 1992; D. Allen, IDFG, personal communication). Analysis of the USGS gaging station records (Brennan et al. 1996) support this. Mean monthly predevelopment winter flows (October - February, 1895 -1916) in the Boise River below Moores Creek ranged from 969 to 1,299 cfs and minimum monthly flows for the same time period ranged from 509 - 925 cfs. Post development (1955 - 1997) mean monthly flows ranged from 206 - 1,572 cfs while mean minimum flows ranged from 0 - 63 cfs at the USGS gage on the Boise River called "Near Boise". It is clear that the greatest change in the flow regime in the Boise River has been the reduction of nonirrigation season flows. Shifting the flow augmentation release from the summer to the winter in addition to the stream channel maintenance flows presently being released would go a long way toward returning to historic winter flows and a normative hydrograph. The resultant flows would be in the neighborhood of 500 - 600 cfs. While these flows are well below historic mean monthly flows, they are similar to the historic minimum flows and are a vast improvement on the 150 - 240 cfs currently being released for stream channel maintenance in the nonirrigation season.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Habitat

The additional water provided by the salmon flow augmentation releases appears to have, at best, limited benefits to resident fish habitat in the Snake River. Although usable habitat increased in the Snake River for adult and juvenile sturgeon and adult rainbow trout, the flows were still well below what is needed to sustain viable healthy fish populations.

The flow augmentation releases in the Deadwood River appear to have detrimental impact to bull trout and rainbow trout habitat. The quantity of useable habitat decreased for both species the majority of the time.

Flow Comparisons

It is important to keep in mind that the recommendations presented here are minimum flows designed as short-term emergency flows, not ideal or preferred flows.

The flow augmentation in the Snake River is insufficient by itself to achieve minimum flow recommendations. Significantly more water would be needed to reach the minimum flow recommendations. Flow augmentation appears to have very little benefit to resident fish in the reach of the Snake River from C. J. Strike Dam to Brownlee Reservoir.

Flow augmentation in the tributaries does appear to provide some benefit to resident fish. However, data is lacking that would allow these benefits to be quantified in all the tributaries except the Deadwood River. Sometimes the flow augmentation releases helped meet minimum flows; sometimes the minimum flows would have been met even without the additional water; and other times the minimum flows were not met even with the augmentation water. In the Payette River, the summer releases helped achieve minimum flows at both the Cascade and Letha gages. But the water was insufficient to achieve these minimums all the time. The winter releases out of Cascade Reservoir helped achieve minimum flows but like the summer

flows, was insufficient to meet the recommendations all the time. The Deadwood Reservoir releases exceeded the minimum flow recommendation but resulted in a loss of useable habitat. The Boise River releases also helped achieve minimum recommendations some of the time. But, the majority of the time the recommendations would have been met without the flow augmentation releases.

Changes are needed if water management in the Snake River Basin is to take into account the needs of the fishery resources. If water quality is to be improved and sturgeon populations are to be recovered to a healthy, viable, harvestable level, then more water is needed at the proper times (namely spring for spawning sturgeon and larval sturgeon development and the summer to improve water quality and prevent fish kills). Salmon flow releases are not sufficient to do it alone. Modification of existing flow augmentation releases in the tributaries could go a long way to improving conditions for fish by releasing the water during a critical or limiting period. The following recommendations are presented in an effort to refine the salmon flow augmentation releases to increase benefits to resident fish.

- 1) Release the salmon flow augmentation water out of Lucky Peak Reservoir on the Boise River during the nonirrigation season (mid-October mid-April) in addition to the stream channel maintenance flows presently being released. These flows will significantly help keep fry and juvenile trout habitat under water and available during the nonirrigation season. The resulting flows would approach the historic minimum monthly flows observed prior to any dam construction.
- 2) Continue the 50/50 summer/winter release in the Payette River Basin. This strategy may have benefits to resident fish, but no clear trend is evident. Hopefully, future monitoring will show clear benefits. This strategy is consistent with previous recommendations.
- 3) The BOR and IDWR should continue to monitor the flow augmentation releases from Cascade and Deadwood reservoirs separately. This would allow a much more detailed evaluation of the impact of these flows in the Deadwood, South Fork and North Fork Payette rivers.
- Discontinue the splitting of the salmon flow releases in the upper Snake River at Milner Dam. Keep the entire 1,500 cfs in the river channel. Current operation is to only send 200 cfs down the river, while the remaining water (approximately 1,300 cfs) is sent down an irrigation canal for a little over a mile so that it can be sent through turbines before returning to the river. This splitting of the water may negate any water quality benefits this extra water could provide. The 200 cfs left in the river is subject to intense solar radiation and thus excessive warming. The diverted water is also subject to warming as well as additional nutrient loading from agricultural fields the canals irrigate.
- 5) Conduct IFIM studies below BOR facilities so that changes in fish habitat resulting from the release of the salmon flow augmentation water can be quantified.
- In dry years, release the water from American Falls Reservoir in the spring (April June) to aid sturgeon spawning and larval development. In normal to wet years, begin releasing the water in June to keep the water temperatures cooler to protect sturgeon larvae and to improve water quality.

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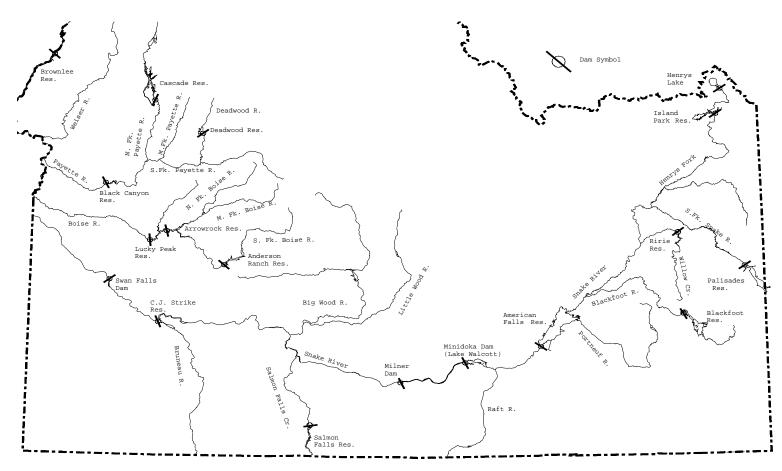


Figure 1. The Idaho water rental project study area.

Table 1. Stored water provided for salmon flow augmentation from Bureau of Reclamation reservoirs in acre-feet, 1998 (data from Bureau of Reclamation and IDWR).

| SYSTEM/RESERVOIR | Reclamation Power Head | Space Uncontracted | Rental Pool | Natural Flows | Total | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------|---------|--|
| Upper Snake* | 1 | ! | | | | |
| American Falls | | 8,951 | | | | |
| Jackson | | 3,923 | | | | |
| Palisades | | 10,022 | | | | |
| Subtotal | | 22,896 | 200,326 | | 223,222 | |
| Payette** | | | | | | |
| Cascade | | 69,600 | | | | |
| Deadwood | | 25,400 | | | | |
| Subtotal | | 95,000 | 50,043 | | 145,043 | |
| Boise*** | | | | | | |
| Anderson Ranch (uncontracted) | | | | | | |
| Lucky Peak | | 40,932 | | | | |
| Subtotal | | 40,932 | | | 40,932 | |
| Oregon | | | | | | |
| Skyline Farms | | | | 17,649 | | |
| Oregon Water Trust | | | | 198 | | |
| Subtotal | | | | 17,847 | 17,847 | |
| GRAND TOTAL | | 158,828 | 250,369 | 17,847 | 427,044 | |

^{*} All water was physically moved out of American Falls Reservoir, but storage accounts in the other reservoirs were charged.

^{**} The Payette release was split roughly 60/40 between summer and winter releases. The summer releases were both Cascade and Deadwood storage. The winter release was exclusively Cascade release. A total of 84,209 acre-feet was released in the summer, 60,834 acre-feet was released in the winter. The rental pool water was released from Cascade Reservoir.

^{***} All water was physically moved out of Lucky Peak Reservoir.

Table 2. Timing of the 1998 flow augmentation releases from the upper Snake Basin (IDWR data).

| System | Source/Space | Start Date | End Date | Location of measured flow |
|---------------|--|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Upper Snake* | Rental Pool Uncontracted | 7/8/98 9/11/98 | 9/11/98 9/18/98 | Milner Dam |
| Boise | Lucky Peak BOR Uncontracted Space | 7/7/98 | 8/28/98 | Middleton Gage |
| Payette** | Summer Release Uncontracted Rental Pool Winter Release | 7/10/98 12/5/98 | 9/3/98 2/1/99 | Letha Gage Letha Gage |
| Skyline Farms | Irrigation Purchase | 7/1/98 | 9/20/98 | Natural flow |

^{*} This water was actually released from American Falls Reservoir but the start and end dates reflect the dates the water flowed past Milner Dam (source: IDWR).

^{**} The Payette River release was split roughly 60/40 between summer and winter release. The winter release came exclusively from Cascade Reservoir.

Table 3. Water provided for flow augmentation from the Snake River Basin upstream of Hells Canyon Dam, 1987-1998. Values are in acre-feet.

| System | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 |
|-----------------------------|---------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Upper Snake | 1707 | 1700 | 1707 | 1,7,0 | 1771 | 1772 | 1773 | 17771 | 1775 | 1330 | 1337 | 1,,,0 |
| USBR Space | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 206,617 | 285,954 | 22,396 | 22,396 | 22,396 | 22,896 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | · |
| Rentals | 150,000 | 50,000 | 100,000 | 63,000 | 0 | 0 | 65,000 | 44,325 | 232,839 | 194,667 | 202,104 | 200,326 |
| BPA Purchase | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 50,000 | 49,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Subtotal | 150,000 | 50,000 | 100,000 | 63,000 | 50,000 | 49,000 | 271,617 | 330,279 | 255,235 | 217,063 | 224,500 | 223,222 |
| Payette | ı | 1 | | | | ı | 1 | | | | | |
| USBR Space | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 90,000 | 95,000 | 61,883 | 94,242 | 95,000 | 95,000 | 95,000 |
| Rentals | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 34,971 | 0 | 50,758 | 56,300 | 60,000 | 50,043 |
| BPA Purchase | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 51,000 | 51,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Subtotal | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 51,000 | 141,000 | 129,971 | 61,883 | 145,000 | 151,300 | 155,000 | 145,043 |
| Boise | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| USBR Space | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 23,000 | 35,950 | 25,000 | 38,000 | 38,000 | 40,932 |
| Rentals | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,000 | 0 | 2,000 | 0 |
| Subtotal | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 23,000 | 35,950 | 27,000 | 38,000 | 40,000 | 40,932 |
| Natural Flows | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Skyline Farms | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15,714 | 17,649 | 17,649 |
| OR Water Trust | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 64 | 132 | 198 |
| Subtotal | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15,778 | 17,781 | 17,847 |
| Upper Snake Contribution | 150,000 | 50,000 | 100,000 | 63,000 | 101,000 | 190,000 | 424,588 | 428,112 | 427,235 | 422,141 | 437,281 | 427,044 |
| Brownlee | 0 | 0 | 50,000 | 87,000 | 174,000 | 110,000 | 102,000 | 326,270 | 235,000 | 298,810 | 332,191 | 534,440 |
| Grand Total | 150,000 | 50,000 | 150,000 | 150,000 | 275,000 | 300,000 | 526,588 | 754,382 | 662,235 | 720,951 | 769,472 | 961,484 |

Table 4. Changes in white sturgeon habitat in the Snake River from C.J. Strike Dam to Swan Falls Reservoir resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1998. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; Incub. = incubation; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month.

| | | | | | Total Flo | W | | Net Flow | | | | Change | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|-------|--------|----------------|--------|-------|--------|-----------------------|--------|-------|--------|
| Month | Mean Daily Flow (cfs) | Mean Augment Flow (cfs) | Mean Daily Net Flow (cfs) | Adult/ Juv. | Larvae | Spawn | Incub. | Adult/ Juv. | Larvae | Spawn | Incub. | Adult/ Juv. (%) | Larvae | Spawn | Incub. |
| July 7/11- 7/31 | 7,619 | 1,547 | 6,072 | 23.11 | 16.88 | 5.38 | 14.90 | 20.65 | 16.24 | 3.40 | 12.59 | +2.46 (11.91) | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Aug. 8/1-8/31 | 7,694 | 1,555 | 6,139 | 23.22 | 16.89 | 5.48 | 15.01 | 20.76 | 16.28 | 3.48 | 12.69 | +2.46 (11.85) | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Sept. 9/1-9/21 | 8,890 | 1,516 | 7,374 | 24.84 | 16.62 | 7.08 | 16.61 | 22.74 | 16.85 | 5.06 | 14.55 | +2.10 (9.23) | N/A | N/A | N/A |

Table 5. Changes in white sturgeon habitat in the Snake River from Swan Falls Dam to Walters Ferry resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1998. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; Incub. = incubation; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month.

| | | | | Total l | Flow | | | Net | Flow | | | Change | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|--------|-------|--------|----------------|--------|-------|--------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------|--------|--|
| Month | Mean Daily Flow (cfs) | Mean Augment Flow (cfs) | Mean Daily Net Flow (cfs) | Adult/ Juv. | Larvae | Spawn | Incub. | Adult/ Juv. | Larvae | Spawn | Incub. | Adult/ Juv. (%) | Larvae (%) | Spawn (%) | Incub. | |
| July 7/12- 7/31 | 7,399 | 1,544 | 5,855 | 3.90 | 2.52 | 1.86 | 3.05 | 3.63 | 2.72 | 1.37 | 2.79 | +0.27 (7.44) | N/A | N/A | N/A | |
| Aug. 8/1-8/31 | 7,578 | 1,558 | 6,020 | 3.92 | 2.49 | 1.91 | 3.08 | 3.66 | 2.71 | 1.43 | 2.82 | +0.26 (7.10) | N/A | N/A | N/A | |
| Sept. 9/1-9/22 | 8,842 | 1,516 | 7,326 | 4.07 | 2.30 | 2.24 | 3.26 | 3.89 | 2.53 | 1.84 | 3.04 | +0.19 (4.88) | N/A | N/A | N/A | |

Table 6. Changes in white sturgeon habitat in the Snake River from Walters Ferry to the Boise River resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1998. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; Incub. = incubation; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month.

| | Total Flow | | | | | | | | Net Flov | v | | Change | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|--------|-------|--------|----------------|----------|-------|--------|-----------------------|---------------|-------|--------|
| Month | Mean Daily Flow (cfs) | Mean Augment Flow (cfs) | Mean Daily Net Flow (cfs) | Adult/ Juv. | Larvae | Spawn | Incub. | Adult/ Juv. | Larvae | Spawn | Incub. | Adult/ Juv. (%) | Larvae (%) | Spawn | Incub. |
| July 7/12- 7/31 | 7,399 | 1,544 | 5,855 | 38.89 | 35.00 | 3.35 | 10.41 | 33.77 | 31.07 | 1.92 | 7.59 | +6.12 (18.12) | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Aug. 8/1-8/31 | 7,578 | 1,558 | 6,020 | 40.56 | 35.38 | 3.52 | 10.71 | 34.45 | 31.56 | 2.05 | 7.93 | +6.11 (17.74) | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Sept. 9/1-9/22 | 8,842 | 1,516 | 7,326 | 45.34 | 37.45 | 4.97 | 12.94 | 39.61 | 34.85 | 3.27 | 10.28 | +5.73 (14.47) | N/A | N/A | N/A |

Table 7. Changes in white sturgeon habitat in the Snake River from the Boise River to the Payette River resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1998. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; Incub. = incubation; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month.

Total Flow Net Flow Change Mean Mean Mean Daily Adult/ Net Flow Daily Augment Juv. Larvae Incub. Spawn Flow Flow (cfs) (cfs) Adult/ Adult/ (%) Month (cfs) Juv. Larvae Spawn Incub. Juv. Larvae Spawn Incub. (%) (%) (%) 11,800 560 11,240 52.94 36.27 5.63 15.40 51.47 36.30 5.01 14.72 1.47 N/AN/A N/AJuly 7/9-7/12 (2.86)9,377 1,944 7,433 46.43 35.42 3.16 12.46 39.94 33.11 9.21 +6.49N/AN/A N/AJuly 1.55 7/13-(16.25)7/31 9,691 1,920 7,771 47.30 3.45 12.84 41.19 33.62 9.99 N/A Aug. 35.67 1.81 +6.10N/A N/A 8/1-8/31 (14.81)11,570 1,517 10,053 52.33 36.28 5.37 15.12 48.29 35.94 3.78 13.27 +4.04 N/A N/A Sept. N/A 9/1-9/23 (8.37)

Table 8. Changes in white sturgeon habitat in the Snake River from the Payette River to Brownlee Reservoir resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1998. Juv. = juvenile;

Spawn = spawning; Incub. = incubation; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month.

Habitat Estimates - Weighted Usable Area in millions of square feet

| Total Flow | | | | | | | | Net Flow | | | | | Change | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|--------|-------|--------|----------------|--------|-------|--------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------|--------|
| Month | Mean Daily Flow (cfs) | Mean Augment Flow (cfs) | Mean Daily Net Flow (cfs) | Adult/ Juv. | Larvae | Spawn | Incub. | Adult/ Juv. | Larvae | Spawn | Incub. | Adult/ Juv. (%) | Larvae (%) | Spawn (%) | Incub. |
| July 7/2-7/9 | 22,588 | 110 | 22,478 | | | | | | | | | | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| July 7/10- 7/13 | 15,450 | 1,157 | 14,293 | 47.84 | 28.84 | 13.59 | 23.04 | 47.40 | 29.61 | 12.17 | 22.06 | +0.44 (0.93) | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| July 7/14- 7/31 | 11,867 | 3,099 | 8,768 | 45.15 | 30.42 | 9.15 | 19.38 | 39.54 | 29.62 | 5.45 | 14.86 | +5.61 (14.19) | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Aug. 8/1-8/31 | 11,613 | 2,705 | 8,908 | 44.80 | 30.39 | 8.85 | 19.04 | 39.88 | 29.70 | 5.62 | 15.10 | +4.92 (12.34) | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Sept. 9/1-9/24 | 13,413 | 1,658 | 11,755 | 46.79 | 30.04 | 11.07 | 21.18 | 44.99 | 30.40 | 9.02 | 19.23 | +1.80 (4.00) | N/A | N/A | N/A |

Table 9. Changes in rainbow trout habitat in the Snake River from C.J. Strike Dam to Swan Falls Reservoir resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1998. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn

= spawning; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month.

Habitat Estimates - Weighted Usable Area in millions of square feet

Total Flow Net Flow Change Mean Daily Mean Mean Augment Net Flow Daily Adult Juv. Spawn Fry Flow Flow (cfs) (cfs) Adult Fry Fry (%) Month (cfs) Juv. Spawn Adult Juv. Spawn (%) (%) (%) July 7,619 1,547 6,072 43.92 2.91 7.05 42.20 17.64 7.42 +1.72-1.83 -0.37 15.80 2.51 N/A 7/11-(4.08)(10.37)(4.99)7/31 Aug. 7,694 1,555 6,139 43.98 2.96 7.04 42.29 17.55 2.52 7.40 +1.69 -1.82 -0.36 15.73 N/A 8/1-8/31 (4.00)(10.37)(4.86)8,890 7,374 44.82 6.07 43.71 -1.00 Sept. 1,516 -1.21 14.83 3.50 16.05 2.77 7.08 +1.10N/A 9/1-9/21 (7.54)(14.12)(2.52)

Table 10. Changes in rainbow trout habitat in the Snake River from Swan Falls Dam to Walters Ferry resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1998. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month.

| | | | | Tota | al Flow | | | | Net Flow | | | Change | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------|---------|-------|------|-------|----------|-------|------|------------------|-----------------|-----------|------------------|--|
| Month | Mean Daily Flow (cfs) | Mean Augment Flow (cfs) | Mean Daily Net Flow (cfs) | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult | Juv. (%) | Spawn (%) | Fry (%) | |
| July 7/12- 7/31 | 7,399 | 1,544 | 5,855 | 8.17 | 6.41 | 0.36 | 2.68 | 6.69 | 6.35 | 0.48 | 3.30 | +1.49 (22.27) | +0.06 (0.94) | N/A | -0.62 (18.79) | |
| Aug. 8/1-8/31 | 7,578 | 1,558 | 6,020 | 8.31 | 6.39 | 0.36 | 2.57 | 6.89 | 6.41 | 0.48 | 3.25 | +1.42 (20.61) | -0.02 (0.31) | N/A | -0.68 (20.92) | |
| Sept. 9/1-9/22 | 8,842 | 1,516 | 7,326 | 9.05 | 6.06 | 0.38 | 1.82 | 8.12 | 6.42 | 0.35 | 2.72 | +0.93 (11.45) | -0.36 (5.61) | N/A | -0.90 (33.09) | |

Table 11. Changes in rainbow trout habitat in the Snake River from Walters Ferry to the Boise River resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1998. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month.

Habitat Estimates - Weighted Usable Area in millions of square feet

| | | | | | Total | Flow | | | | Net Flow | | | Chang | ge | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|----------|-------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Month | Mean Daily Flow (cfs) | Mean Augment Flow (cfs) | Mean Daily Net Flow (cfs) | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult | Juv. (%) | Spawn (%) | Fry (%) |
| July 7/12-7/31 | 7,399 | 1,544 | 5,855 | 227.29 | 82.02 | 95.20 | 36.08 | 201.84 | 95.22 | 75.32 | 49.81 | +25.45 (12.61) | -13.20 (13.86) | N/A | -13.72 (27.54) |
| Aug. 8/1-8/31 | 7,578 | 1,558 | 6,020 | 229.42 | 80.25 | 97.49 | 34.39 | 204.63 | 94.07 | 76.35 | 48.45 | +24.79 (12.11) | -13.82 (14.69) | N/A | -14.06 (29.02) |
| Sept. 9/1-9/22 | 8,842 | 1,516 | 7,326 | 240.44 | 68.53 | 111.71 | 25.07 | 226.42 | 82.75 | 94.27 | 36.77 | +14.02 (6.19) | -14.21 (17.17) | N/A | -11.70 (31.82) |

Table 12. Changes in rainbow trout habitat in the Snake River from the Boise River to the Payette River resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1998. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month.

Habitat Estimates - Weighted Usable Area in millions of square feet

| | | | | Total | Flow | | | Net | Flow | | | | Change | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|------------------|------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Month | Mean Daily Flow (cfs) | Mean Augment Flow (cfs) | Mean Daily Net Flow (cfs) | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult | Juv. (%) | Spawn (%) | Fry (%) |
| July 7/9-7/12 | 11,800 | 560 | 11,240 | 226.57 | 56.59 | 69.67 | 22.01 | 229.29 | 57.93 | 72.74 | 22.75 | -2.72 (1.19) | -1.34 (2.31) | N/A | -0.74 (3.25) |
| July 7/13- 7/31 | 9,377 | 1,944 | 7,433 | 231.83 | 64.50 | 79.98 | 27.74 | 216.44 | 73.43 | 75.19 | 36.76 | +15.39 (7.11) | -8.93 (12.16) | N/A | -9.02 (24.54) |
| Aug. 8/1-8/31 | 9,691 | 1,920 | 7,771 | 232.47 | 62.92 | 78.84 | 26.53 | 220.86 | 72.25 | 76.83 | 35.26 | +11.62 (5.26) | -9.33 (12.91) | N/A | -8.73 (24.76) |
| Sept. 9/1-9/23 | 11,570 | 1,517 | 10,053 | 227.69 | 57.14 | 70.93 | 22.31 | 232.97 | 61.21 | 77.53 | 25.21 | -5.28 (2.27) | -4.07 (6.65) | N/A | -2.90 (11.50) |

Table 13. Changes in rainbow trout habitat in the Snake River from the Payette River to Brownlee Reservoir resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of 1998. Juv. = juvenile;

Spawn = spawning; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month.

Habitat Estimates - Weighted Usable Area in millions of square feet

| | | | | Total | Flow | | | Net F | low | | | - | Change | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Month | Mean Daily Flow (cfs) | Mean Augment Flow (cfs) | Mean Daily Net Flow (cfs) | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult | Juv. (%) | Spawn (%) | Fry (%) |
| July 7/2-7/9 | 22,588 | 110 | 22,478 | | | | | | | | | | | N/A | |
| July 7/10- 7/13 | 15,450 | 1,157 | 14,293 | 128.17 | 36.42 | 42.71 | 9.80 | 130.16 | 39.36 | 42.18 | 11.15 | -1.99 (1.53) | -2.94 (7.47) | N/A | -1.35 (12.11) |
| July 7/14-7/31 | 11,867 | 3,099 | 8,768 | 131.31 | 48.23 | 37.00 | 15.12 | 123.57 | 62.70 | 25.64 | 23.89 | +7.74 (6.26) | -14.47 (23.08) | N/A | -8.77 (36.71) |
| Aug. 8/1-8/31 | 11,613 | 2,705 | 8,908 | 130.92 | 49.44 | 36.01 | 15.88 | 124.34 | 62.20 | 26.28 | 23.67 | +6.58 (5.29) | -12.76 (20.51) | N/A | -7.80 (32.95) |
| Sept. 9/1-9/24 | 13,413 | 1,658 | 11,755 | 131.21 | 42.06 | 41.31 | 12.35 | 131.14 | 48.76 | 36.56 | 15.46 | +0.07 (0.05) | -6.70 (13.74) | N/A | -3.11 (20.12) |

Table 14. White sturgeon and rainbow trout life stages and time of occurrence in the Snake River (from Anglin et al. 1992 and Lepla and Chandler 1995). Incub.= incubation; Juv.= juvenile.

| Species/ Life Stage | C.J. Strike to Swan Falls | Swan Falls to Walters Ferry | Walters Ferry to Boise River | Boise River to Payette River | Payette River to Brownlee Reservoir |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Sturgeon Spawning | April-May (2 months) | April-May (2 months) | April-May (2 months) | April-May (2 months) | April-May (2 months) |
| Sturgeon Larvae | April-June (3 months) | April-June (3 months) | April-June (3 months) | April-June (3 months) | April-June (3 months) |
| Sturgeon Incub. | April-May (2 months) | April-May (2 months) | April-May (2 months) | April-May (2 months) | April-May (2 months) |
| Sturgeon Adult/Juv. | all year | all year | all year | all year | all year |
| Rainbow Trout Spawning | March-April (2 months) | March-April (2 months) | March-April (2 months) | March-April (2 months) | March-April (2 months) |
| Rainbow Trout Fry | April-Sept. (6 months) | April-Sept. (6 months) | April-Sept. (6 months) | April-Sept. (6 months) | April-Sept. (6 months) |
| Rainbow Trout Juv. | all year | all year | all year | all year | all year |
| Rainbow Trout Adult | all year | all year | all year | all year | all year |

of

Table 15. Changes in bull trout habitat in the Deadwood River from Deadwood Dam to the mouth resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month.

Habitat estimates – Weighted Usable Area in square feet per one thousand linear feet of stream.

| | | | | | Total Flo | OW | | | Net Flow | | | | Change | - | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|-----------|-------|-----|--------|----------|-------|-----|----------------|----------------|-----------|---------|
| Month | Mean Daily Flow (cfs) | Mean Augment Flow (cfs) | Mean Daily Net Flow (cfs) | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult (%) | Juv. (%) | Spawn (%) | Fry (%) |
| July 6/30- 7/31 | 909 | 120 | 789 | 28,490 | 29,377 | N/A | N/A | 28,625 | 30,086 | N/A | N/A | -135 (0.47) | -709 (2.36) | N/A | N/A |
| Aug. 8/1- 8/17 | 786 | 42 | 744 | 28,630 | 30,106 | N/A | N/A | 28,719 | 30,328 | N/A | N/A | -89 (0.31) | -222 (0.73) | N/A | N/A |

Table 16. Changes in rainbow trout habitat in the Deadwood River from Deadwood Dam to the mouth resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer 1994. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month.

| | | | | | Total Flo | <u>ow</u> | | • | Net Flow | | | (| Change | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|-----------|-----------|--------|--------|----------|-------|--------|------------------|------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Month | Mean Daily Flow (cfs) | Mean Augment Flow (cfs) | Mean Daily Net Flow (cfs) | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult (%) | Juv. (%) | Spawn (%) | Fry (%) |
| July 6/30- 7/31 | 909 | 120 | 789 | 51,605 | 22,444 | N/A | 30,798 | 53,387 | 24,919 | N/A | 31,865 | -1,782 (3.34) | -2,475 (9.93) | N/A | -1,067 (3.35) |
| Aug. 8/1- 8/17 | 786 | 42 | 744 | 53,431 | 24,980 | N/A | 31,894 | 54,054 | 25,826 | N/A | 32,226 | -623 (1.15) | -846 (3.28) | N/A | -332 (1.03) |

of

Table 17. Changes in bull trout habitat in the Deadwood River from Deadwood Dam to the mouth resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month.

Habitat estimates – Weighted Usable Area in square feet per one thousand linear feet of stream.

| | | | | | Total Flo | OW . | | | Net Flow | | | | Change | -: | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|-----------|-------|-----|--------|----------|-------|-----|----------------|----------------|-----------|------------|
| Month | Mean Daily Flow (cfs) | Mean Augment Flow (cfs) | Mean Daily Net Flow (cfs) | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult (%) | Juv. (%) | Spawn (%) | Fry (%) |
| July 7/23- 7/31 | 627 | 167 | 460 | 29,350 | 31,034 | N/A | N/A | 28,391 | 31,784 | N/A | N/A | +959 (3.38) | -749 (2.36) | N/A | N/A |
| Aug. 8/1- 8/31 | 740 | 98 | 642 | 28,729 | 30,344 | N/A | N/A | 29,227 | 30,913 | N/A | N/A | -498 (1.70) | -569 (1.84) | N/A | N/A |

Table 18. Changes in rainbow trout habitat in the Deadwood River from Deadwood Dam to the mouth resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer 1996. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month.

| | | | | | Total Flo | ow | | | Net Flow | | -i- | | Change | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|-----------|-------|--------|--------|----------|-------|--------|------------------|-------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Month | Mean Daily Flow (cfs) | Mean Augment Flow (cfs) | Mean Daily Net Flow (cfs) | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult (%) | Juv. (%) | Spawn (%) | Fry (%) |
| July 7/23- 7/31 | 627 | 167 | 460 | 56,274 | 28,748 | N/A | 33,215 | 57,849 | 34,956 | N/A | 35,813 | -1,575 (2.72) | -6,208 (17.76) | N/A | -2,598 (7.25) |
| Aug. 8/1- 8/31 | 740 | 98 | 642 | 54,096 | 25,873 | N/A | 32,242 | 55,910 | 28,340 | N/A | 33,052 | -1,813 (3.24) | -2,467 (8.71) | N/A | -810 (2.45) |

of

Table 19. Changes in bull trout habitat in the Deadwood River from Deadwood Dam to the mouth resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month.

Habitat estimates – Weighted Usable Area in square feet per one thousand linear feet of stream.

| | | | | | Total Flo | OW . | | | Net Flow | | - | | Change | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|-----------|-------|-----|--------|----------|-------|-----|------------------|------------------|-----------|------------|
| Month | Mean Daily Flow (cfs) | Mean Augment Flow (cfs) | Mean Daily Net Flow (cfs) | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult (%) | Juv. (%) | Spawn (%) | Fry (%) |
| July 7/12- 7/31 | 529 | 168 | 361 | 29,508 | 31,880 | N/A | N/A | 27,207 | 32,293 | N/A | N/A | +2,301 (8.46) | -414 (1.28) | N/A | N/A |
| Aug. 8/1-9/2 | 715 | 162 | 553 | 28,828 | 30,467 | N/A | N/A | 30,010 | 31,656 | N/A | N/A | -1,182 (3.94) | -1,189 (3.76) | N/A | N/A |

Table 20. Changes in rainbow trout habitat in the Deadwood River from Deadwood Dam to the mouth resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer 1997. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month.

| | | | | | Total Flo | ow | | | Net Flow | | | | Change | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|-----------|-------|--------|--------|----------|-------|--------|------------------|-------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Month | Mean Daily Flow (cfs) | Mean Augment Flow (cfs) | Mean Daily Net Flow (cfs) | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult (%) | Juv. (%) | Spawn (%) | Fry (%) |
| July 7/12- 7/31 | 529 | 168 | 361 | 58,926 | 32,033 | N/A | 35,122 | 56,649 | 39,496 | N/A | 35,876 | +2,277 (4.02) | -7,463 (18.90) | N/A | -754 (2.10) |
| Aug. 8/1-9/2 | 715 | 162 | 553 | 54,718 | 26,739 | N/A | 32,512 | 58,775 | 31,758 | N/A | 34,958 | -4,058 (6.90) | -5,020 (15.81) | N/A | -2,446 (7.00) |

Table 21. Changes in bull trout habitat in the Deadwood River from Deadwood Dam to the mouth resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer of

Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month.

Habitat estimates – Weighted Usable Area in square feet per one thousand linear feet of stream.

| | | | | | Total Flo | ow | | | Net Flow | | | | Change | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|-----------|-------|-----|--------|----------|-------|-----|----------------|----------------|-----------|------------|
| Month | Mean Daily Flow (cfs) | Mean Augment Flow (cfs) | Mean Daily Net Flow (cfs) | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult (%) | Juv. (%) | Spawn (%) | Fry (%) |
| July 7/10- 7/31 | 639 | 144 | 495 | 29,209 | 30,890 | N/A | N/A | 28,855 | 31,817 | N/A | N/A | +355 (1.23) | -927 (2.91) | N/A | N/A |
| Aug. 8/1-9/1 | 742 | 91 | 651 | 28,724 | 30,336 | N/A | N/A | 29,065 | 30,732 | N/A | N/A | -341 (1.17) | -396 (1.29) | N/A | N/A |

Table 22. Changes in rainbow trout habitat in the Deadwood River from Deadwood Dam to the mouth resulting from salmon flow augmentation releases during the summer 1998. Juv. = juvenile; Spawn = spawning; N/A = not applicable, life stage not present during that month.

of

| | | | | | Total Flo | ow | | | Net Flow | | | | Change | _ | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|-----------|-------|--------|--------|----------|-------|--------|------------------|-------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Month | Mean Daily Flow (cfs) | Mean Augment Flow (cfs) | Mean Daily Net Flow (cfs) | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult | Juv. | Spawn | Fry | Adult (%) | Juv. (%) | Spawn (%) | Fry (%) |
| July 7/10- 7/31 | 639 | 144 | 495 | 55,981 | 28,421 | N/A | 33,081 | 58,378 | 33,396 | N/A | 35,504 | -2,398 (4.11) | -4,975 (14.90) | N/A | -2,423 (6.83) |
| Aug. 8/1-9/1 | 742 | 91 | 651 | 54,084 | 25,866 | N/A | 32,238 | 55,696 | 28,097 | N/A | 32,964 | -1,612 (2.89) | -2,231 (7.94) | N/A | -726 (2.20) |

Table 23. Integrated (target) fish flow recommendations and the actual flows recorded at the Murphy Gage on the Snake River downstream of Swan Falls Dam during the flow augmentation period in 1994 - 1998. The integrated flows are also for the Murphy Gage. Data is from Anglin et al. (1992). Flows are in cubic feet per second.

| Flow | April | May | June | July | August | September | October |
|----------------------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-----------|---------|
| Integrated Fish Flow | 15,000 | 12,500 | 9,000 | 12,500 | 12,500 | 12,500 | 12,500 |
| Actual Flows* | | | | | | | |
| 1994 | 7,947 | 8,341 | 7,004 | 6,565 | 6,225 | | |
| 1995 | | | | 7,941 | 7,400 | 8,413 | 7,930 |
| 1996 | | | | 7,466 | 7,765 | 7,927 | |
| 1997 | | | | 8,133 | 10,480 | 14,809 | |
| 1998 | | | | 7,399 | 7,578 | 8,842 | |

^{* =} Mean flows during the first and last month each year are not for the entire month, just the flow augmentation period. See previous tables for exact dates.

Table 24. Flow summary for years 1994 - 1998 showing the salmon flow augmentation release dates, total mean monthly flows, flow augmentation component of total flow, minimum flow recommendations, frequency that flows met or exceeded minimums, and recommended release time.

| RIVER | YEAR | LOCATION (USGS GAGE) | FLOW AUGMENT. PERIOD | TOTAL FLOW MEAN MONTHLY (CFS) | MEAN AUGMENT. FLOW (CFS) | MAXIMUM FLOW (CFS) | MINIMUM FLOW (CFS) | FLOW RECOMMEND. (CFS) | DAYS MET | RECOMMENDED RELEASE TIME |
|---------|------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Boise | 1994 | Middleton | 7/5-7/31 8/1-8/19 | 557 481 | 410 371 | 601 525 | 293 343 | 240 240 | All All | non-irrigation season (October - March) |
| | 1995 | Middleton | 7/17-7/31 8/1-8/20 | 775 622 | 400 381 | 1,060 772 | 699 403 | 240 240 | All All | non-irrigation season (October - March) |
| | 1996 | Middleton | 7/11-7/31 8/1-8/29 | 610 632 | 386 390 | 705 702 | 572 564 | 240 240 | All All | non-irrigation season (October - March) |
| | 1997 | Middleton | 7/14-7/31 8/1-8/31 | 775 864 | 393 423 | 883 948 | 650 800 | 240 240 | All All | non-irrigation season (October - March) |
| | 1998 | Middleton | 7/7 - 7/31 8/1 - 8/28 | 733* 796 | 426 371 | 882 877 | 637 520 | 240 240 | All All | non-irrigation season (October - March) |
| Payette | 1994 | Cascade | 6/30-7/31 8/1-8/17 | 1,754 1,545 | 681 241 | 1,940 1,920 | 1,020 1,300 | 1,400 1,400 | 27/32 12/17 (22/31 August) | 50/50 split between summer and non- irrigation season (October - March) |
| | 1994 | Deadwood** | 6/30-7/31 8/1-8/17 | 909 786 | 120 42 | 1,091 808 | 871 761 | 267 191 | All All | Non-irrigation season (October – March) |
| | 1994 | Letha | 7/2-7/31 8/1-8/16 | 911 560 | 825 430 | 1,350 986 | 340 310 | 1,165 1,165 | 3/31 0/16 | 50/50 split between summer and non- irrigation season (October – March) |

Table 24. Cont'd.

| RIVER | YEAR | LOCATION | FLOW | TOTAL FLOW | MEAN | MAXIMUM | MINIMUM | FLOW | DAYS | RECOMMENDED |
|-------|------|----------|----------|------------|------------|---------|---------|------------|------|--------------|
| | | (USGS | AUGMENT. | MEAN | AUGMENT. | FLOW | FLOW | RECOMMEND. | MET | RELEASE TIME |
| | | GAGE) | PERIOD | MONTHLY | FLOW (CFS) | (CFS) | (CFS) | (CFS) | | |
| | | | | (CFS) | | | | | | |

| Payette | 1995/ 1996 | Cascade | 11/30-12/31 1/1-1/15 | 1,748 2,078 | 1,548 1,878 | 2,230 2,200 | 475 1,720 | 400 400 | All All | 50/50 split between summer and non- irrigation season (October – March) |
|---------|---------------|------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--|
| | 1995/ 1996 | Letha | 12/2-12/31 1/1-1/17 | 4,243 3,735 | 1,518 1,892 | 8,000 4,370 | 2,590 3,140 | 1,165 1,165 | All All | 50/50 split between summer and non- irrigation season (October – March) |
| | 1996 | Cascade | 7/23-7/31 8/1-8/31 | 1,346 1,342 | 944 554 | 1,460 1,410 | 1,320 1,300 | 1,400 1,400 | 1/9 3/31 | 50/50 split between summer and non- irrigation season (October – March) |
| | 1996 | Deadwood** | 7/23-7/31 8/1-8/31 | 627 740 | 167 98 | 696 836 | 409 147 | 267 191 | All 30/31 | Non-irrigation season (October – March) |
| | 1996 | Letha | 7/25-7/31 8/1-9/2 | 1,281 816 | 1,126 677 | 1,440 1,260 | 1,170 230 | 1,165 1,165 | All 2/33 | 50/50 split between summer and non- irrigation season (October – March) |
| | 1996/ 1997 | Cascade | 12/11-12/31 1/1-1/31 2/1-2/8 | 1,610 2,679 2,114 | 501 1,750 1,577 | 1,900 3,780 3,680 | 1,500 212 198 | 400 400 400 | All 26/31 6/8 | 50/50 split between summer and non- irrigation season (October – March) |
| | 1996/ 1997 | Letha | 12/13-12/31 1/1-1/31 2/1-2/10 | 4,650 8,417 6,526 | 554 1,680 1,479 | 11,600 27,000 8,040 | 2,560 5,230 4,420 | 1,165 1,165 1,165 | All All | 50/50 split between summer and non- irrigation season (October - March) |
| | 1997 | Cascade | 7/12-7/31 8/1-9/1 | 1,532 1,462 | 757 529 | 1,540 1,550 | 1,520 1,360 | 1,400 1,400 | All 19/32 | 50/50 split between summer and non- irrigation season (October - March) |

Table 24. Cont'd.

| RIVER | YEAR | LOCATION (USGS GAGE) | FLOW AUGMENT. PERIOD | TOTAL FLOW MEAN MONTHLY (CFS) | MEAN AUGMENT. FLOW (CFS) | MAXIMUM FLOW (CFS) | MINIMUM FLOW (CFS) | FLOW RECOMMEND. (CFS) | DAYS MET | RECOMMENDED RELEASE TIME |
|---------|------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Payette | 1997 | Deadwood** | 7/12-7/31 | 529 | 168 | 841 | 385 | 267 | All | Non-irrigation |

| | | 8/1-9/2 | 715 | 162 | 761 | 282 | 191 | All | season (October – March) |
|---------------|------------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|--|
| 1997 | Letha | 7/14-7/31 8/1-9/3 | 1,854 1,180 | 1,083 1,041 | 2,320 1,740 | 1,540 536 | 1,165 1,165 | All 17/32 | 50/50 split between summer and non- irrigation season (October – March) |
| 1997/ 1998 | Cascade | 11/27-12/29 | 920 | 720 | 1,008 | 455 | 400 | All | 50/50 split between summer and non- irrigation season (October – March) |
| 1997/ 1998 | Letha | 11/29-12/31 | 1,739 | 720 | 2,303 | 839 | 1,165 | 31/33 | 50/50 split between summer and non- irrigation season (October - March) |
| 1998 | Cascade | 7/8 - 7/31 8/1 – 9/1 | 1,516 1,566 | 812 517 | 1,530 1,780 | 1,480 1,500 | 1,400 1,400 | All All | 50/50 split between summer and non- irrigation season (October -March) |
| 1998 | Deadwood** | 7/8 – 7/31 8/1 – 9/1 | 639 742 | 144 91 | 785 874 | 556 95 | 267 191 | All 30/32 | Non-irrigation season (October – March) |
| 1998 | Letha | 7/10 - 7/31 8/1 - 9/3 | 1,542 802 | 945 637 | 2,570 1,220 | 1,040 320 | 1,165 1,165 | 14/22 2/34 | 50/50 split between summer and non- irrigation season (October - March) |

Table 24. Cont'd.

| RIVER | YEAR | LOCATION (USGS GAGE) | FLOW AUGMENT. PERIOD | TOTAL FLOW MEAN MONTHLY (CFS) | MEAN AUGMENT. FLOW (CFS) | MAXIMUM FLOW (CFS) | MINIMUM FLOW (CFS) | FLOW RECOMMEND. (CFS) | DAYS MET | RECOMMENDED RELEASE TIME |
|-------|------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Snake | 1994 | Murphy | 4/17-4/30 | 7,947 | 1,360 | 9,720 | 7,150 | 15,000 | 0 | spring - sturgeon |
| | | | 5/1-5/31 | 8,341 | 1,309 | 9,490 | 6,890 | 12,500 | 0 | spawning, early |

| | | 6/1-6/30 7/1-7/31 8/1-8/20 | 7,004 6,565 6,225 | 1,465 1,515 954 | 9,020 8,180 6,950 | 5,750 5,490 5,370 | 9,000 12,500 12,500 | 1/30 0 0 | rearing and incubation; summer - water quality |
|------|--------|---|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|--|
| 1995 | Murphy | 7/6-7/31 8/1-8/31 9/1-9/30 10/1-10/3 | 7,941 7,400 8,413 7,930 | 1,491 1,553 1,361 316 | 9,440 8,080 9,160 8,140 | 6,240 6,860 7,370 7,770 | 12,500 12,500 12,500 12,500 | 0 0 0 0 | spring - sturgeon spawning, early rearing and incubation; summer - water quality |
| 1996 | Murphy | 7/8-7/31 8/1-8/31 9/1-9/18 | 7,466 7,765 7,927 | 1,847 1,543 974 | 8,420 8,490 9,030 | 6,500 6,980 7,130 | 12,500 12,500 12,500 | 0 0 0 | spring - sturgeon spawning, early rearing and incubation; summer - water quality |
| 1997 | Murphy | 7/13-7/31 8/1-8/31 9/1-9/22 | 8,133 10,480 14,809 | 1,523 1,506 1,471 | 9,280 12,800 16,100 | 6,970 7,990 13,400 | 12,500 12,500 12,500 | 0 5/31 All | spring - sturgeon spawning, early rearing and incubation; summer - water quality |
| 1998 | Murphy | 7/12-7/31 8/1-8/31 9/1-9/22 | 7,399 7,578 8,842 | 1,544 1,558 1,516 | 8,060 8,630 10,100 | 6,820 6,610 7,640 | 12,500 12,500 12,500 | 0 0 0 | spring - sturgeon spawning, early rearing and incubation; summer - water quality |

[•] There were four days of missing data during the July flow augmentation period. ** = All Deadwood flows are for near the mouth and are equivalent to the release at the dam plus the average inflow of 142 cfs during July and 66 cfs during August. The flow recommendation is also for the mouth. It is the recommended release at the dam (125 cfs) plus the average inflow of 142 cfs during July and 66 cfs during August.